UNITED
NATIONS

S

Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/1999/888
17 August 1999

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 17 AUGUST 1999 FROM THE CHARGÉ D'AFFAIRES A.I. OF THE PERMANENT MISSION OF YUGOSLAVIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

The Prime Minister of the Government of the Republic of Albania, Pandeli Majko, recently travelled to Kosovo and Metohija, the autonomous province of the Yugoslav constituent Republic of Serbia, without prior notification to the Yugoslav authorities or the granting of a Yugoslav visa. He arrived in an official automobile and was escorted by the Albanian security service, in an act of arrant violation of the territorial integrity and sovereignty of the Republic of Serbia and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia. His address to local residents, whom he called "Albanian citizens", and his statement that Kosovo and Metohija would become part of "Greater Albania", which, he said, was "only a question of time" were particularly provocative.

This illegal act and irresponsible statement by the Prime Minister of the Republic of Albania were only the latest manifestations of the long-lasting territorial aspiration of the Republic of Albania towards Kosovo and Metohija, a part of the sovereign Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, exercised in open disregard for the relevant international documents and the norms of international law, including the Charter of the United Nations, the Helsinki Final Act and Security Council resolution 1244 (1999), which reaffirms the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia in express terms. A glaring example of that expansionist policy of the Republic of Albania was the recognition, the only one in the world, of the phantom "Republic of Kosovo" in 1991, as a stepping stone in the creation of a "Greater Albania".

In lodging the strongest protest over the enabling by KFOR and UNMIK of the latest provocation, I take the opportunity to recall that the Government of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia has, on a number of occasions, warned the Security Council and both international presences in Kosovo and Metohija, as well as the Special Representative of the Secretary-General, Bernard Kouchner, specifically, of the intentions of "KLA" terrorists to secede, in collusion with the Albanian leadership and some Western countries, and adjoin this Serbian province to the Republic of Albania, contrary to Security Council resolution 1244 (1999).

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Vladislav JOVANOVIC
Chargé d'affaires a.i.